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that the filing date of the '958 Kolmanovsky reference is April 11, 2001. Applicants have established an invention date in the Rule 1.131 affidavit prior to November 20, 2000. The remaining prior art, Taguchi, Foley, and Yamanaka, singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest the present claimed invention.

If the Examiner relies on personal knowledge that the apparatus of the present invention is obvious, Applicants respectfully request support for this assertion in the form of an affidavit that shall be subject to contradiction or explanation by the affidavits of the Applicant and other persons under 37 C.F.R. 1.104 (d)(2).

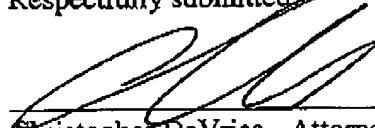
Conclusion

The entire Office Action dated June 16, 2005 has been carefully reviewed, and this response is submitted as being fully responsive thereto. In view of the preceding remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action at the Examiner's earliest convenience. If the Examiner believes that personal contact would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is requested to call the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

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If for some reason a fee needs to be paid, as well as one-month extension fee please charge
Deposit Account No. 07-0960 for the fees, which may be due.

Respectfully submitted



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